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# The Greatest Memorial to Lincoln

by Morris Lombard

ONE of the great dreams of Abraham Lincoln is now being fulfilled in building up the Lincoln Memorial University at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee. The story of this institution illustrates, more than any other one thing, the dominant trait of Abraham Lincoln. When he stood, with General O. O. Howard, before a map, and pointed out a site at the mountainous intersection of Tennessee, Virginia and Kentucky, he manifested in manner and in words a peculiar tenderness toward the people of that mountain region, and insisted that here were people who needed the right kind of help to help themselves. His largeness of heart inspired the vision of the future. The late General Howard said that in that last interview, before the passing of Abraham Lincoln, "he said he wanted me to understand them and appreciate their worth." General Howard devoted his life to the project, and lived to see the enterprise launched as inspired by Lincoln.

Born in a one-room cabin, Lincoln understood from experience the longing that is inherent in the lads and lassies of that mountainous region for an education. As I look upon the two million dollar memorial which is being erected in Washington, I often wonder if Abraham Lincoln would not have desired the realization of the dream of educational help for the Appalachian mountaineers completed even before the erection in his honor of an imposing monument of marble.

Lincoln believed in human beings—and that is why the plain people hold in their hearts the enduring and endearing monument to his fame.

When General O. O. Howard purchased the ideal site for Lincoln University at Harrogate, Tennessee, at the intersection of the three states as indicated by Lincoln, he fulfilled a purpose. The campus is composed of seven hundred acres of farm and wood lands, and already, under the able direction of Dr. George Hubbell, the university has developed a farm department that is yielding a profit, through the hard work and careful supervision of the students, helping to develop self-made men as Lincoln was developed. It has been a strain and a struggle to maintain even the present facilities, but the people and those who "do things" are aroused and intensely interested. On the property are substantial roads and drainage system established by the Four Seasons Hotel Company, whose holdings were secured by Lincoln's friend and confidant, General O. O. Howard, as a location for a school to educate the boys and girls from the mountains.

Nearby is the Pinnacle mountain ridge and thousands of acres of hardwood forests a-bloom, in season, with dogwood, azaleas and rhododendrons. Then there are the King Solomon and Soldiers Caves, only partially explored, all furnishing a beauty and picturesqueness unrivaled. The water supply of the University is unsurpassed, and it is small wonder that the hundreds of mountain boys and girls educated



DR. FRANK A. SEIBERLING

President of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company of Akron, Ohio, who has become deeply interested in promoting the welfare of Lincoln Memorial University, that it may remain a permanent memorial to the great man whose name and fame it perpetuates. To this end Dr. Seiberling has given unstintingly of his time and interest in furthering the good work being done there

here are not only helpful to the institution, but also are able to help themselves—ready to do their own work in life, going forth, fearless and unafraid, and succeeding just as Lincoln believed that they should succeed, if given an opportunity to prove their metal.

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The future of the Lincoln Memorial University is a matter for concern not only to those who have devoted self-sacrificing years to maintain and fulfill the dream of Abraham Lincoln, but every man and woman, boy and girl in America should contribute something toward carrying out his ideals. For what Lincoln did for the world and for his country can never be repaid, and now why not do something for the boys and girls whose welfare was so close to his heart? The proposed plans for the greater Lincoln Memorial University provides for twenty-five hundred students in three groups—Men, Women, Industries—with space for administration, classes, library, auditorium, museum, shops, residence, farm buildings and lands, athletics, and a college inn with recreation grounds. Under the direction of the landscape architect, Mr. Warren H. Manning, the site of the Lincoln Memorial University is to be made, without extensive outlay, the finest in the country.

Fifty per cent of the population in the shaded sections to the north of the little map pictured here, is of foreign parentage. They are offered ten months of public schools, night and grade schools, settlement houses, model villages, universities, hospitals, and asylums, free lectures, museums, parks, playgrounds, police protection, fine roads and transportation. In the shaded sections to the south, fifty per cent of the population is black. These people enjoy the same educational advantages of the whites of the region. They have schools such as Hampton and Tuskegee, and since emancipation, the ten million colored people of the United States have acquired \$700,000,000 of property including 25,000,000 acres of land. But for the region outlined, of which the Lincoln Memorial University is the centre, settled with a people having the least diluted Anglo-Saxon blood of America very little

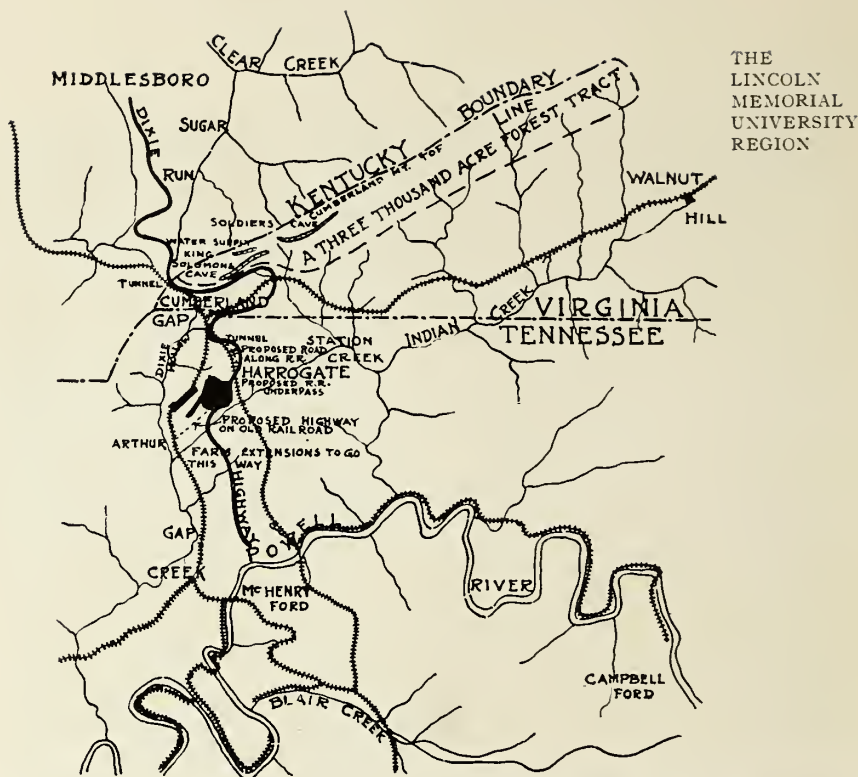
has been done. Here boys and girls seldom have more than three months of school and none of the other advantages provided for the sons of aliens in the North. There are but few colleges with small endowments, and no state aid whatever. With the meager present equipment of the university, seven hundred students are taught each year, of whom four hundred are maintained at a cost of \$3.25 a week for all items, and much of this cost is covered by their paid labor in the campus, fields, barns, shops, dormitories and homes. You can't keep down this sort of spirit—and why not help?

Here has been inaugurated the ideal educational plan favored by Lincoln—with work, study, and play intermingled. A simple record of the Lincoln Memorial University in itself is such as should appeal to every American. Every person who has felt the thrill of the greatness of Lincoln should respond at once with some contribution, and have his name enrolled in the records of the University which will remain one of the most enduring and permanent memorials to Abraham Lincoln. What more fitting celebration than to send, during this February, birth-month of Lincoln, from every farm, hamlet, town and city in the union, a contribution to the Treasurer of the Lincoln Memorial University at Cumberland Gap, Tennessee—a small mite that will help to crystalize and perfect the plans of the man who was a friend of the North and the South, and who has a friend in every spot where red blood flows and a human heart beats?

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When it is realized that one cent will lay one brick in this educational memorial that will endure as long as the Stars and Stripes float, who of us will not be impelled to direct an envelope right away, containing a contribution, no matter how small—for "it's the spirit in which the gift is rich." Why is it, I wonder, that thousands of Americans of means do not realize that here is an opportunity to build a monument that will continue in the living flesh and blood of the growing young mountain people, the bone and sinew of the nation, educating and training them for the duties and responsibilities of life, and making American citizens that will count in time





*The white spot in the solid black in the map tells the story of Anglo-Saxon people neglected in educational advantages*



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OUR LOCATION



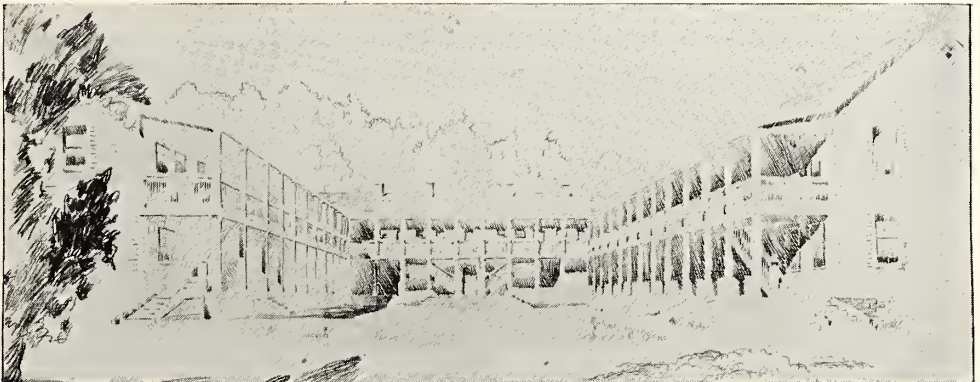
PROPOSED CHANGES IN AVERY HALL



President's House  
Avery Hall



Site of Low Cost Dormitory  
Norton Hall



PROPOSED LOW COST DORMITORY



of need. Is this not the eternal of preparedness which we must possess as a nation as civilization advances.

The university has attracted the attention of eminent business men and manufacturers in the country, who are personally taking hold of the situation in earnest, not only with contributions but with personal work, to make this university one of the most efficient and practical as well as the most beautiful universities of the world, worthy of the country that owes so much to the name of Lincoln. It is founded upon the ideals of Abraham Lincoln, and if we are earnest and sincere in our admiration and love of his memory, we should be generous in our contribution toward the realization, the fruition of the plans that were so dear to his heart. Now, just go down in your pocket, as well as look deep in your heart and do something at once for Lincoln's loved mountaineer lads and lassies, and you will do a patriotic service that will make your citizenship in the republic seem more like a real heritage of Abraham Lincoln, whose life in itself was the expression of "the better angels of our nature."

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At the November, 1915, meeting of the trustees of the Lincoln Memorial University, it was decided to proceed with a vigorous campaign to provide for carrying out the plans as outlined by the experts who had made a study of the needs of the institution from every angle. A committee was appointed to undertake the exploitation and to raise the money—Dr. Frank A. Seiberling, President of the Goodyear Tire and Rubber Company, Akron, Ohio; Mr. Frank Garford, of the Garford Manufacturing Company, and Joe Mitchell Chapple of Boston. The committee at once took hold of the matter in earnest, and have already enlisted the interest of some most prominent men of the country in helping with the work to carry out the plans that will make Lincoln Memorial University an educational institution worthy the great name it bears and the great man who inspired the work. Dr. Seiberling has already provided a new dairy barn which will accommodate one hundred thoroughbred cows—and the dairy farm is

paying. He also provided for the plans that were accepted. This is only a start in the work, for the Lincoln Memorial expresses the practical ideas of Abraham Lincoln in educational work, giving the boys and girls a chance to work their way through school, acquiring learning and not forgetting how to work. With the genius of such successful business men as Dr. Seiberling and Mr. Garford, directing the work, there is no doubt as to the outcome. The committee has organized to do definite work and enlist the support of the people, for the people and let Lincoln's inspiration be realized—"by the people"—as the fulfillment of the clear-visioned Sir Great Heart of our history.

It is suggested that a notable celebration of Lincoln's birthday in 1917 be held at Cumberland Gap, the historic gateway for the pioneers of frontier days, at which will be gathered many of the prominent men of the country to pay tribute to the name and fame of Abraham Lincoln at the point he indicated on the map that he desired General Howard to help the people of the mountains. It is felt that a popular subscription, in which everybody could join, would be a most appropriate overture for the great campaign. In what way could any man or woman with a few thousand dollars to spare, make it count more effectively than in this monument to Lincoln? It is making the men and women who will be citizens of tomorrow that most concerns the thoughtful people today.

The institution is already attracting students even from the older communities, boys and girls who realize the benefit derived from the open air, and who learn in college days what work means in the development of character. Any practical business man or woman who should visit and see the students of Lincoln Memorial University at work, and the process of education there already tested and being developed, would soon feel the enthusiasm of the hundreds of self-sacrificing men and women who are giving their lives as teachers in developing this institution, which is making men and women citizens of inestimable value to the country, and recruiting the creative and constructive forces of the nation.